

THE ALMA RECORD.

VOL. XLII—NQ. 20

ALMA, MICHIGAN, THURSDAY AFTERNOON, AUGUST 14, 1919

WHOLE NUMBER 2108

CONTRACTOR FACING SUIT

City Suing Purcell, Well Digger,
to Secure Damages Amount-
ing to \$25,000.

REPLEVINED THE MACHINES

City Officials Hold View that the
Contract for Wells Was Never
Completed.

Claiming that A. R. Purcell, Jack-
well contractor, has not finished his
work in giving the City a pure well
supply of 2,000 gallons per
minute, and that he had refused to
return to this city and complete his
work, the officials of the city started
suit late Tuesday afternoon against
Mr. Purcell seeking \$25,000 damages.

In addition to starting suit against
Purcell the city officials also re-
plevined a well digging machine
which the Jackson man had on the
job, and which is now in St. Louis
where Purcell is putting down a well
for that city. The other machine has
not yet been located.

Included in the \$25,000.00 asked
as damages by the city of Alma for
the failure of the Jackson man to
complete his work here is an item of
\$6,000, or 15 per cent of the contract
price of \$40,000, which it is set forth
was illegally obtained by Purcell
through his alleged misrepresentation
of the wells to John White, city
engineer at that time, who put his
O. K. on the work.

Under the contract with Purcell
the title of the well digging machin-
ery was to rest in the City of Alma
until the satisfactory completion of
the wells, which the city officials hold
could not be until they had been tested
and shown to yield a flow of 2,000
gallons of water per minute, when
pumped in unison, and until the water
had been approved by the State
Board of Health as a safe drinking
water.

As a result the city obtained a
writ of replevin for the well digging
machinery, which in the view of the
city officials belongs to the City of
Alma. The writ was served on Pur-
cell Tuesday with notice of the start-
ing of the suit. This has caused the
stopping of his well digging opera-
tions in St. Louis until such time as
he may furnish a bond for the value
of the machinery in use there, or un-
til he secures machinery from some
other source.

While a law suit is always more
or less of a gamble, the city officials
believe that they have an exception-
ally strong case against Mr. Purcell
and intend to push it to the limit, as
they are certain that the city will be
able to recover a portion of the con-
tract money which was paid to Mr.
Purcell on his estimates.

Such a result naturally will lessen
the extra cost that the city will be
under in completing the work, and
the officials feel that it is their duty
to the taxpayers of the city to re-
cover as much of the money as possi-
ble.

"CITY OF ALMA" CHRISTENING SOON

Alma's Liberty Loan Honor
Ship Will Be Launched at
Alexandria, Va.

Word has been received from the
U. S. Shipping Board, through T.
Arnold Robinson, chairman of the
Victory Loan campaign in Gratiot, to
the effect that the "City of Alma"
will be christened at Alexandria, Vir-
ginia, in the near future. It is pos-
sible that Governor Sleeper will be
present at that time.

The name "Alma" had been selected
by the committee, which sent
Alma to the front rank of the cities
of Michigan with its great percent-
age of oversubscription in the Fourth
Liberty Loan campaign, but this
proved unacceptable to the United
States Shipping Board.

That there might be no possible de-
lay from wrangling or choosing a
new name, the "City of Alma" was
substituted by the Victory Loan of-
ficials of the county, which will re-
tain the idea that the former com-
mittee had, and which probably will
give to the City of Alma a still
greater amount of publicity.

The date for the christening of the
vessel has not been as yet, but is
expected to be given out in the
near future.

Efforts are being made by the Vic-
tory Loan officials to have Governor
Albert E. Sleeper present at the
christening, when Miss Esther
Rhodes sponsors the vessel that will
be named in the city's honor, and it
is also expected that F. R. Fenton,
federal director of sales for the Lib-
erty Loans in Michigan, and Mr. Platt,
director of sales for this district,
will also be prevailed upon to be
present.

Advertise your wants in The Rec-
ord.

Best ice cream. DeLuxe—77-tf-c

CUT PRICES

Government Making Determined Effort
to Lower Food Prices.

The government will make a de-
termined effort to lower food prices
by selling the war department sur-
plus food, in addition to making war
on the profiteers of the country.

It is understood that the sale of the
war department foodstuffs will start
this coming week, and that orders
may be placed with the post offices, at
which time payment for goods must
be made.

The post office authorities will then
send in the orders for the foodstuffs
thus ordered, and they will be deliv-
ered by parcel post to the parties
who ordered the food.

The cut prices of the government
have been met with a slash on the
part of wholesalers in some parts of
the country, and it is understood that
the government may make another
cut in prices of the government food
which is to be sold.

Included among the meats to be
sold are corned beef, roast beef, corn
beef hash, bacon. In the vegetable
list is included baked beans, string-
less beans, corn, tomatoes, pumpkin
and squash. Other foodstuffs such as
condensed milk, etc., which the de-
partment has, will also be placed on
the market and be sold direct to the
consumer.

GARDNER FORMS

A PARTNERSHIP

Ex-Army Officer Will Come to
Alma and Take Up Medical
Work with Local Man.

A partnership has been formed be-
tween Dr. C. B. Gardner and Dr.
Charles F. DuBois, both veterans of
the great World War, and who have
already resumed their civilian prac-
tice in the Pollasky block, in the
rooms formerly occupied by Dr.
Gardner.

Dr. Gardner has practiced in Alma
for a number of years, and is held
in high regard in this city by a host
of friends. For the past two years
he has been in the service. Captain
Gardner just recently returned to
this city, to resume his practice on
securing his discharge.

Dr. DuBois is a newcomer to Alma.
He is a graduate of the University
of North Dakota, where he received
his academic degree. He has his
doctor's degree from the Rush
Medical college of Chicago. After
graduating he spent two years in
hospital work, being connected with
the hospital for crippled children in
Chicago, the Municipal Contagious
hospital in Detroit, Harper hospital
in Detroit and the Children's Free
hospital in Detroit. Six months prior
to the outbreak of the war he started
a private practice with Dr. Hugo
Freund of Detroit, but when the war
started, gave up his practice and en-
tered the service. He held a com-
mission as a lieutenant. During the
influenza epidemic he was with base
hospital in Pennsylvania, where the
epidemic was severe among the coal
miners because of the fact that most
of the doctors from that region had
gone to the army. He rendered a
most valuable service among the
miners there at that time.

Dr. DuBois comes here highly re-
commended, especially for his work
during the war and will undoubtedly
prove an able and capable partner to
Dr. Gardner.

He will move his household goods
to Alma from Detroit as soon as
a suitable home can be secured,
which he hopes will be within a very
short time.

RESOLUTIONS OF RESPECT

By the death of Brother Louis B.
Kehn which occurred Sunday morn-
ing, July 27th, 1919, this lodge has
lost one of its most highly esteemed
and beloved members. He was a per-
son whom it was always a pleasure
to meet and greet. His pleasant man-
ner and noble virtues are worthy of
emulation by all; and while we bow
in humble submission to the will of
our Supreme Architect, the passing
of our fraternal brother we greatly
deplore.

Resolved, that we as men and
Masons, express our great apprecia-
tion of his splendid character and
noble worth.

Resolved, that while we drop the
sympathetic tear over the grave of
our departed brother, we will ever
cherish his life and virtues with
kindly remembrance.

Resolved, that we share the sor-
rows of his faithful wife and vener-
able parents and extend to them our
most earnest sympathy; and be it
further

Resolved, that these resolutions be
spread in the memorial record book
of this lodge and a copy mailed to his
bereft wife.

Alma Lodge, No. 244, Free and Ac-
cepted Masons, Alma, Michigan.
J. E. Fuller, C. J. Milliken, F. O.
Parker.

Adopted Aug. 6th, 1919.

GO TO PONTIAC

The Republic baseball team will go
to Pontiac Saturday and Sunday,
where the strong aggregation repre-
senting the Wilson Iron and Machin-
ery company will be played. The
Truckmakers are looking for two
hard battles in this series as the
Pontiac nine is considered as one of
the state's strongest semi-pro teams.

Million Dollar Concern to Locate in This City

Northern Wheel Company Has Purchased a Site and Will
Start Work on Buildings Within Two
Weeks.

STOCK IS GROWING RAPIDLY

Expects to Have Buildings
Ready and to Start Opera-
tions in December.

A new one million dollar factory is
the immediate prospect for the city
of Alma, which promises to employ
one hundred and twenty-five men
right from the time that operations
are started in this city, a fact which
will still further promote the boom
which has been started with the an-
nouncement that the Republic Motor
Truck Company, Inc., will remain in
Alma.

The proposition has gone so far
that it is now declared to be a cer-
tainty that the new company will
make this city its business and man-
ufacturing home. Ground for the
site has already been purchased just
to the north of plant three of the Re-
public, between East Superior street
and the Pere Marquette railroad.

A. D. Smith, formerly of St. Johns,
who for years has been with the
Hayes Wheel Company, is behind the
new institution. He has had twenty-
eight years of experience in this busi-
ness and knows it down to the small-
est detail. The company has already
asked for papers of incorporation un-
der the name of the Northern Wheel
Company. The company is being in-
corporated under the laws of Dela-
ware for one million dollars, which
indicates that its backers believe that
it will eventually be a great manu-
facturing institution. Of the million
dollars in common stock \$150,000 is
being sold in Alma at present, the
rest being held up for other units of
the organization which will be con-
structed later. The business men of
the city have shown great confidence
in the proposition and are subscrib-
ing in a most liberal way to the stock
which is being offered at par. There
is still a small amount of this stock
which is still available for the in-
vestor, but it is expected that in view
of the way that the stock has been
selling that this will be quickly taken.
Those desiring information regarding
the stock can secure it by seeing Mr.
J. W. Blakey.

So certain has it become that the
factory will become an Alma institu-
tion that machinery has already been
ordered for delivery this fall.

It is the intention of the company
to engage in the manufacture of
wooden wheels for both commercial
and pleasure cars, and hopes are en-
tertained that soon after the factory
starts operations, that it will be pos-
sible to put in a pressed steel found-
ry, thus making it possible for the
firm to also make steel wheels for
the trade.

The plans for the buildings for
the company have been drawn. The
main building is to be 60 feet in
width and 204 feet in length, and in
addition to this there will be a heat-
ing plant constructed at the same
time. The building will be one story
in height, and constructed of brick
and concrete. It was given out Tues-
day that everything was in the best
of shape and that it was expected
that work would be started on the
building within the next two weeks.
The structure is to be completed and
ready so that the company may start
work in its own factory by Decem-
ber 1st. Offices have been establish-
ed in the Wright estate block on
State street, where a number of men
are already at work.

With the announcement that this
large new factory is to locate in
Alma, and is soon to start operations
here with one hundred and twenty-
five men, the need for more homes
for working men is again being
pressed home to the people of the
city, as Alma must provide means
for supplying the homes that will be
demanded by the many new workmen
who will soon be in the city.

BETTER WITH THAN WITHOUT

A gang of Irish workmen busily
engaged unloading at the docks.
Suddenly there was a tremendous
buzzing overhead and an aeroplane
came in sight at a very high alti-
tude.

"Sure, I wouldn't like to be up
there in that aeroplane," remarked
Murphy, reflectively.

"Ah!" replied Pat. "But I wouldn't
like to be up there without it,
sonny!"

WE CAN ALL AGREE

Disatisfied Housewife—"Do you
mean to say that this meter meas-
ures the amount of gas we burn?"

Gas Collector—"I will enter into
no controversy, sir; but I may say
that the meter measures the amount
of gas you will have to pay for."

Envy is a tacit acknowledgment
of inferiority.

ELECT OFFICERS

St. Louis Truck Factory Now Seems
to Be a Certainty.

Last week officers were elected for
The Bollstrom Motor Company, Inc.,
at a meeting held in St. Louis, at
which time it developed that the new
truck company was a certainty for
that city.

Henry H. Soule, the well known
Alma contractor and builder, was
elected as president of the company.
The other officers elected were as fol-
lows: Vice president, Maurice Boll-
strom; secretary and treasurer, F. C.
Ohland; The directors elected were
Henry H. Soule, Maurice Bollstrom,
F. C. Ohland, Henry J. Paulus, J. C.
Fellers, E. E. Bennett and W. H.
Hall.

The company has been incorporated
and application has been made with
the securities commission to sell
\$300,000 worth of stock. The first
unit of the plant will be started this
fall and it is expected to be in op-
eration before winter.

CHAUTAUQUA WILL

CLOSE TONIGHT

Big Event Will Return to Alma
Next Year with More
Friends Than Ever.

The 1919 Redpath Chautauqua
closes tonight after the most success-
ful week that the Redpath Bureau
has ever enjoyed in this city, and
will leave in Alma a far greater
number of warm friends than ever
in the past, because of the excellence
of the program which was given this
year.

That the Chautauqua will return to
Alma next year was an assured fact
on Monday evening, at which time
Charles G. Rhodes asked for one hun-
dred residents of the city to sign the
guarantee for next year, which calls
for \$1,975.00. Contracts were passed
through the audience for signers, and
within a very few moments were re-
turned to the platform with a far
greater number of signers than the
number which Mr. Rhodes had asked
for, insuring the fact that Alma will
have this big summer feature next
year.

Before the Chautauqua opened
there were some doubts entertained
as to the class of the program as
compared with previous years, but
each successive day brought home
just a little more forcibly the fact
that the program this year was the
very best that Alma has ever enjoyed,
no matter from what viewpoint
one gazes at the events of the week.

The lectures of the program were
exceptionally good and confined to
timely popular subjects, which are
bound to attract wide attention. They
were handled in a most capable man-
ner by people who had made a deep
study of the matters on which they
were speaking and for the most part
were men of recognized authorities in
regard to the matters about which
they spoke. Such is especially true
of the lectures of Charles Zuehlbin, R.
E. P. Cline, Miss Florence Bullard and
Miss Marie Rose Lauler.

Monday evening's debate between
Charles Zuehlbin and the Hon. Leslie
M. Shaw on the question of govern-
ment ownership of railroads, in
which the former secretary of the
treasury held the negative side of
the question, was a spirited affair,
marked with the well known humor
of Mr. Shaw, and created a big in-
terest in the audience.

The musical attractions were of a
high class indeed. Alma people get-
ting the opportunity of hearing some
of the finest masters in the country.
Most notably among these attrac-
tions were the grand concert by Mme.
Augusta Lenska, Russian prima don-
na, which was given Saturday even-
ing; and the grand concert by Kryn
and his band on Tuesday evening.

Both of these events stand out as the
musical features of the program.
Standing but little behind these two
star events were the concerts by the
Harvesters company, The Great
Lakes String Quartet and the Or-
chestral Sextette.

FINED FOR DRUNKENNESS

William Bartlett, living east of
this city, was arrested circus day in
Alma charged with being drunk, and
when taken before a local justice of
the peace entered a plea of not guilty
and paid a fine of \$15.00 and costs
amounting to \$4.75. Bartlett made a
signed statement for the officials in
which he admitted that he had been
drinking "home brew," and that he
had offered a drink to two others.

Circulation counts—we have it.
DeLuxe ice cream—77-tf-c.

BOYCOTTED

Mr. Callahan Now Seeks to Rule the
World of Semi-Pro Baseball.

Long has dear old Chi been famed
for its rings, political and otherwise,
but now has bobbed up a brand
spankin' new ring, a real genuine
article too, as Mr. John J. Callahan
of the Logan Squares will assure you,
only this cute little ring happens to
be a baseball ring, which evidently is
seeking to control the semi-pro world,
and to have Chicago as its hub, and
the said J. J. perched in the center
directing affairs, through the tre-
mendous pull that he evidently
imagines that he has.

Claiming that he had been slugged,
gagged and outraged through the
Republics having hired a player from
his team and given him real money
each pay day, and having for excuse
that the Republics had not only taken
his player, Freeman, but that they
had also raided another club of the
Chicago league, and secured Hager-
man from the Nash Motors, said J. J.,
his full allotment of Irish aroused,
barked strongly through a letter to
one Rex Devot, manager of the Re-
publics, telling him that the Republics
were in bad with the Chicago
league, and that they would be boy-
cotted.

Horrors! Monday night at a meet-
ing of the directors of the Chicago
league, J. J. led the Republic infan-
try to the slaughter. Boycott 'em they
did as a reply to the wrathful words
of J. J.

Tis even said that teams of the
league playing the Republics will be
chastised by being kicked out of the
Chicago league. Yet the Fairies from
Beloit, strongest aggregation of the
league have dared to violate the ex-
press commands of "all the Irish
blood that's in me."

One Mr. Callahan did not have
Freeman under contract, and as Mar-
quardt, writing up the little party in
the Chicago Daily News said Monday:
"While the Republic Trucks have a
perfect right to take those players—
they (meaning of course the Republics)
are not members of the Chicago
league—some action is promised that
will prevent them from booking
games with any of the league teams."

Oh, Tommyrot, Mr. Callahan, a
ball player is human, and likes the
looks of real coin of the realm. No
man working, who is not under a con-
tract, but what is a free agent when
he seeks to leave, and has a right to
leave for more promising fields of
endeavor.

A trial, as say the patent medicine
advertisements, will convince the
most skeptical. But then J. J. said in
his letter to the Republic baseball
management, "If you don't play my
way I'll take my dolls and go home."

LOSE GAME

Northern Wheel Team Defeated by
Erd Motors of Saginaw Sunday.

"Bill" Minnis' team of desk swipes,
playing as the Northern Wheel com-
pany nine, was defeated Sunday by
the Erd Motor aggregation of Sagi-
naw by a score of 7 to 5, two bad
innings for the local brigade being
enough to give the visitors the runs
needed to land the game.

The leaders of the Saginaw In-
dustrial league race came to Alma
with Brooks, former crack Arthur
Hill star and prospective Detroit
Tiger, to do the box work. Brooks
was hit hard and often by the
Wheeler, who, however, in the last
five innings could not touch the vis-
iting hurler with men on the sacks.
Twelve of the Desk Swipes struck
out during the bout.

During the first three innings it
looked like an easy victory for the
local team, one run coming in the
first and two in the third. Things
changed in the next inning, however,
the Motormakers cracking out three
hits which coupled with local errors
netted four runs. This was tied in
the final half of the inning when the
Alma crew annexed another run. In
the fifth the Erd nine grabbed two
more counters and in the seventh
shoved another over.

The Alma team had chances to
score in the seventh, eighth and
ninth, but were turned back by
Brooks, who went better the longer
the game lasted. Bell opened the
seventh with a three-base drive, but
the following three men could not
touch the offerings of Brooks and he
died at that station. In the eighth
with two down, Worth and Siminton
singled, but poor base running killed
off the chances in that inning. Bates
opened the ninth with a double, and
his teammates chased him over the
counting station with bingles, before
Brooks tightened up and killed off
the Alma rally.

Innings 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9—r h e
Erd 0 0 0 4 2 1 0 6—7 9 4
Wheel 1 0 2 1 0 0 0 1—5 14 6

Batteries: Brooks and Rice; Truck-
ey and Wilson.

MARRIED TUESDAY

Cafe Manager and Business Man
Quietly Wedded.

Miss Sue Whitbeck, and Mr. R. H.
Brown were quietly married Tuesday
evening at the rectory of St. Johns
Episcopal church by Rev. J. Frank
Jackson, furnishing a great surprise
for most of their friends.

R. H. Brown has been in business
in Alma for the past seven years and
is highly regarded, not only among
the business men of the city, but by
a wide circle of friends that he has
drawn to himself during the years
that he has lived in Alma.

Mrs. Brown has been in Alma for
only a short time, but since assuming
the management of the cafe of the
Gratiot club a few months ago, has
gained a large number of friends in
Alma.

The many friends of the popular
couple join with The Record in wish-
ing them a happily wedded life.

HAS ARRIVED

Frank F. Smith has announced that
the Pathe Actualite, which he had
been expecting, has arrived and is
now on display at the Pathe store,
where music lovers may see and
hear the new musical wonder.

BIG PIGGERY TO

START NEAR ALMA

American Stock Food Company
Takes Garbage Contract
and will Start Plant.

Through a contract entered into
between the city of Alma and The
American Stock Food company of
Grand Rapids, the life of which is to
be ten years, this city will soon have
a big pig farm, to be located just
outside of the city limits.

The contract entered into with the
Grand Rapids concern is for the dis-
posal of the city's garbage for the
ensuing ten years, commencing with
September 1, 1919. This company
has been meeting with great success
in feeding garbage to hogs, but has
never before attempted to handle it in
such a small city as Alma.

The entire matter is in the nature
of an experiment with the company,
as this will also be the first time that
the company has ever contracted to
collect the garbage, for which it is
to receive three cents per can.

Under the contract collections will
be made twice each week from resi-
dences and six times per week from
hotels, restaurants, etc., and only
meat, fish and vegetable matter will
be considered as garbage. Other re-
fuse must not be put in the cans.

It is the intention of the company
to immediately lease or purchase a
farm outside of the city limits, and
start the construction of the neces-
sary buildings for its piggery. This
company has started an innovation in
pig raising, keeping the pigs off from
the ground entirely, by means of a
three story structure. The pigs are
fed on the first floor and sleep on the
second and third. The plant here will
naturally be smaller than those that
the company maintains near Grand
Rapids, Buffalo, N. Y., Wheeling, W.
Va., and Mansfield, Ohio, but it is ex-
pected to be patterned after those
model plants.

The American Stock Food company
will take an annual bond of \$2,000
for faithful performance of contract
and to render harmless the city from
neglect, etc.

MAY GET SERIES

Republics May Arrange Five or
Seven Game Series with Saginaw.

There is a very strong likelihood
that the Republics will meet the
Saginaw team of the M-O league in a
five or seven game series, immedi-
ately after the close of the league
season early in September, games to
be played both in Alma and in Sagi-
naw.

At the present time the Saginaws
look like the class of the Michigan
Ontario league, which they have led
all season long, and while the Aces
do not have an overwhelming lead it
is practically conceded that the ag-
gregation will be returned as the
permanent winner when the curtain
rolls down on the league season.

The proposition to schedule the
series has been taken up with both
the management of the Saginaw team
and also with Joe Jackson, president
of the M-O league, and there is every
reason, at the present time, to be-
lieve that the series will be arranged.

If such a series is arranged it will
bring together the class of the minor
league teams of the state and the
strongest of the state's independent
aggregations, as the Republics are
without question the speediest of the
semi-pro nines.

Such a series would be a big draw-
ing card through this section of the
state and would attract big crowds
both in Saginaw and in Alma. The
Saginaws have been anxious to
meet the Republics during the earlier
days of the season, firmly believing
that they had the stuff to win. The
Republics have been just as certain
that they have a stronger team than
any in the M-O league and are pre-
pared to furnish a convincing demon-
stration.

It is expected that, if the series
is arranged, the games will be al-
ternated, one to be played in Saginaw
and the next in Alma.

STANDARD OIL COMPANY BUILDS

Warehouse and Offices Being
Started by Big Concern to
Supply Central Michigan.

IS DISTRIBUTING CENTER

Products Will Be Sent Out Soon to
Cities of This Section from
Alma.

The latter part of last week the
Standard Oil company let a contract
with Henry H. Soule, well known
Alma contractor, for the first of the
structures which that company will
build in Alma, in making this city a
central distributing point for this
part of the state.

The new structure is to be located
on the ground, now owned by the
company near the plant of the Central
Michigan Light & Power com-
pany. Work on the structure will
start at once, according to Mr. Soule
the successful bidder for the contract.
Under the contract the building is to
be completed and ready for business
by December 1, 1919.

The building is to be 30 feet in
width by 80 feet in length and will
be constructed of pressed brick. It
will be one story in height, and will
have a half basement, which will be
just sufficiently large to take
care of the coal and the heating
plant for the building.

The plans call for an office, a ware-
house and a garage in the building,
around which there will be a consid-
erable amount of concrete work. The
warehouse will take up approximately
one-half of the new structure, and
the garage a considerable portion of
the remainder. The garage is to be
large enough to take care of four
automobiles.

The railroad spur to the property
was put in some months ago, and at
that time it was rumored that the
building would be constructed this
year, but until the latter part of last
week, when the contract was let,
there was nothing definite known
in Alma in regard to the matter.

It is